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151008Z Jun 05

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 04 PARIS 004214

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR ECA/PE/V/R/E (CAROL GRABAUSKAS; STEVE TAYLOR);
EUR/PPD (LILLIAN DEVALCOURT)
E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: OEXC SCUL FR
SUBJECT: FY 2006 IVLP- NOMINATION AND PART I BIODATA FOR MR.
NICOLAS RECH - ALTERNATE CANDIDATE FOR INDIVIDUAL PROGRAM.

REF:

START FIXED-FORMAT TEXT (PLEASE DO NOT EDIT):
: The following data is in a fixed format which enables
: automated processing in Washington and should not be
: edited except by means of the Post-EVDB software.

EXPORT-SOURCE: POST-EVDB

VERSION: 3.0.7

POST-EMAIL: Paillards@state.gov

TRANSMITTING-POST: PAS Paris

TRANSMITTING-POST-ID: 14544

EXPORT-TYPE: BIO DATA

START NOMINATION:

ECA-OFFICE: E/VGE

PROG-AGENCY-NAME:

POST-PROJ-ID: 291

ECA-PROJ-NO:

PROJ-NAME: FY 2006 - INDIVIDUAL Program - Nicolas Rech
(Alternate)

START MEMO PROJ-DESC:

END MEMO PROJ-DESC:

PROJ-TYPE: Individual

PROG-TYPE: IV Grant Visitor

FY: 2006

DEPART-POST:

SESSION-DATE:

RETURN-POST:

NO-OF-PART: 1

RANK-ORDER: 19

START MEMO POST-OBJ:

END MEMO POST-OBJ:

START MEMO POST-RCMD:

END MEMO POST-RCMD:

ECA-OFFICE-ID: 1047

PROG-AGENCY-ID:

PROJ-TYPE-ID: IND

PROG-TYPE-ID: 29

NOMINATING-POST-ID: 14544

FUNDING-CNTRY-ID:

STATUS: N

ORIGINATOR: P

SUBJ-DISC: Agriculture

START BIO:

PREFIX: Mr.

F-NAME: Nicolas

M-NAME:

L-NAME: Rech

SUFFIX:

POSITION-CODE: 0

PRINCIPAL?: No

M-ADDR1: Lagarrigue

M-ADDR2:

M-ADDR3:

M-CITY: Senouillac

M-STATE:

M-CNTRY: France

M-ZONE: 81600

M-ZIP:

M-PHONE: + (33) 5.63.41.70.83

M-FAX: + (33) 5.63.81.59.88

M-EMAIL: nicolas.rech@wanadoo.fr

M-CNTRY-ID: FR

M-ADDRTYPE: H

GENDER: M

DOB: 05/22/1976

MAR-STAT: S

BIRTH-CITY: Albi

BIRTH-CNTRY: France

CITIZ-CNTRY: France

RES-CNTRY: France

START MEMO POSITION:

Wine grower and manager of winery, since 1997

END MEMO POSITION:

START MEMO OTHER-POSITIONS:

- President of the Young Farmers' Union of Midi-Pyrenees

(Jeunes Agriculteurs), since June 2004

- President of the Young Farmers' Union of Tarn Department,

since February 2003

- Administrator, Wine cooperative, Labastide de Levis, Tarn, since 2002
- Municipal Councilor, Senouillac, since 2001
- Treasurer, SICAREX (R&D agricultural firm), since 2001

END MEMO OTHER-POSITIONS:

START MEMO PREV-POSITIONS:

END MEMO PREV-POSITIONS:

START MEMO US-TRAVEL:

None

END MEMO US-TRAVEL:

START MEMO OTHER-TRAVEL:

- Canada, July 1996 - participant in a Rotary Club cultural visit and exchange
- Spain, March 1995 - school trip to visit Spanish wineries

END MEMO OTHER-TRAVEL:

START MEMO EDUCATION:

- 1994-1996 - Associate Degree, major in wine growing-oenology, High School for General and Vocational Training in Agriculture, Bordeaux-Blanquefort

END MEMO EDUCATION:

START MEMO MEMBERSHIPS:

END MEMO MEMBERSHIPS:

START MEMO PUBLICATIONS:

- Member, Board of Directors, Center of Rural Economy, Tarn department
- Member, Board of Directors, Chamber of Agriculture of the Tarn department
- Member, Board of Directors, Departmental Federation of Farmers' Unions (FDSEA), Tarn department
- Member, Board of Directors, Regional Federation of Farmers' Unions (FRSEA), Midi-Pyrénées
- Member, Board of Directors, Departmental Committee on Agricultural Orientation, Tarn department
- Member, Board of Directors, Departmental Association for the Development of Farm Facilities (ADASEA), Tarn department

END MEMO PUBLICATIONS:

START MEMO SPEC-CONSID:

END MEMO SPEC-CONSID:

FIRST-LANG: French

ENGL-READ: 2

ENGL-SPEAK: 2

ENGL-COMP: 2

START OTHER-LANGS:

OTHER-LANG: Spanish

OTHER-LANG-ID: QB

READ: 2

SPEAK: 2

COMP: 3

END OTHER-LANGS:

START MEMO NOM-POST-OBJ:

As the Mission aims to reach out to the successor generation, Mr. Rech's reach among young farmers (i.e. less than 35 years old) would enable us to directly address this hard-to-reach audience. Developing productive contacts in the agricultural sector, which is the second industry after aeronautics in Midi-Pyrénées, is essential for APP Toulouse. Agriculture employs 10% of the Midi- Pyrénées workforce --double the national average. It is therefore a sector whose leaders have a major influence on a large portion of the local population. Yet, most young farmers have never traveled to the United States, much less met with their American counterparts. Therefore, an IV trip will give Mr. Rech the rare opportunity to interact with American farmers, lobbyists, and policy makers. Helping Mr. Rech gain a clear perception of American agricultural issues and solutions will shape his decisions as President of Young Farmers.

Promoting a better understanding of U.S. agriculture among young farmers such as Mr. Rech will also help influence the way the French agricultural sector approaches agricultural trade negotiations at the international level (WTO).

END MEMO NOM-POST-OBJ:

START MEMO NOM-POST-RCMD:

Mr. Rech has never been to the U.S. and is unfamiliar with most of its agricultural issues. It would therefore be essential for him to gain a broad knowledge of USG agricultural policy before meeting with lobbyists, union leaders, farmers/winegrowers, Congressional staffers, and local Chamber of Agriculture-equivalent representatives. Mr. Rech is interested in learning about American agriculture's financing (especially with regard to financial aid to newly-established farmers), rural development policies in the U.S., and the organization of agribusiness networks. Helping him develop contacts with his counterparts among young unionists and with American farmers in order to confront the issues they face and the solutions Americans have adopted is also crucial. Mr. Rech has also started a farmers' committee in the Tarn department tasked with analyzing biofuel production opportunities for farmers. Presentations on U.S. energy policy as it pertains to biofuel and renewable energy would also be of use to Mr. Rech in his endeavors, as would meetings with biofuel producers.

END MEMO NOM-POST-RCMD:

START MEMO VIS-OBJ:

END MEMO VIS-OBJ:

START MEMO VIS-REC:

END MEMO VIS-REC:

NOMINATING-OFFICER: Helene Mason

START MEMO NOMINATING-JUSTIFICATION:

At age 28, Nicolas Rech has already reached a high level of responsibility within his professional union and is a key player in the Midi-Pyrenees young farmers' community. The successful running of his winery enables him to dedicate much of his time to the advancement of agricultural issues important to young farmers.

A highly-motivated and energetic individual, he has been actively involved in departmental and regional groups of the national Young Farmers union since 2001. As departmental administrator for the union in 2002, he handled farm establishment, which is one of the major issues facing young farmers. In that capacity, he promoted rural development and interacted with local political leaders. His dynamism was well recognized among his peers, and he rapidly progressed within the union's hierarchy to become the elected Departmental and Regional President of Young Farmers. He currently holds these two positions simultaneously and is actively working to energize his union members at the county and departmental levels in order to build up support for and voluntary participation in Young Farmers' regional endeavors. To that end, he has chosen to focus union priorities on the harmonization of farm establishment procedures at the regional level and on polling young professionals to assist them with their projects.

As Regional President of Young Farmers, he represents the union's Midi-Pyrenees 2,000 members at the national level through the Council of Regional Presidents and also through promotional events and demonstrations. He therefore has a significant domestic impact on the issues that are of relevance to young farmers and on the ways the union should push its agenda.

As a professional wine grower, Mr. Rech is also very active in his community through the wine cooperative (300 wine growers) of which he is an administrator. He has innovative ideas as to how cooperatives in his area should be run and merged, and vocally supports favoring efficiency over individual interests and susceptibilities.

His involvement with Young Farmers -and undoubtedly later with other farmers' unions- is a long-term choice. He intends to continue to seek responsibilities at the national and local levels, depending on time constraints. He feels that a national role in Young Farmers in the short-term would be tremendously interesting, as it would enable him to work with Ministries, the European Union, and financial institutions. However, within the next five years, he intends to run for a departmental Chamber of Agriculture position and to become more actively involved in the local wine production organization (i.e. the running of local cooperatives).

Already engaged in his village's political life as municipal councilor, Mr. Rech will very likely continue in politics in the future in order to have a direct impact on budgets and laws affecting his profession. He is considering running for office within the next ten years, either at the national level as a Member of the National Assembly to propose laws or at the regional level as a Member of the Regional Council to shape local development by voting on financial attributions.

A likely future key actor in rural development in Midi-Pyrenees, Mr. Rech would be a very valuable contact for the USG. Participating in the IV program at this stage would undoubtedly be a decisive experience for him. Not only would it broaden his understanding of American agricultural policy in a context of Franco-American disagreements on agricultural exchanges and policies, but it would be an opportunity to have a significant impact on the way he tackles agricultural issues.

END MEMO NOMINATING-JUSTIFICATION:

NOM-OFF: APP Toulouse, France

SPEAKER?: No

NOTIFY-EMB: No

MEDIA?: No

HOME-STAY: No

HOME-HOSP?: No

E-I-TYPE: INTERPRETER

NOMINEE-ID: 578

PERSON-ID: 477

BIRTH-CNTRY-ID: FR

CITIZ-CNTRY-ID: FR

RES-CNTRY-ID: FR

FIRST-LANG-ID: FR

E-I-TYPE-ID: I

NOM-POST-ID: 14544

NOM-FUNDING-CNTRY-ID: 0

NOM-STATUS: N

DS2019-ACTION: 1

DS2019-SUBJECT:

SPONS-FUNDS: 0

SPONS-AGENCY1:

USGOVT-AGENCY1:

US-AGENCY-AMT1: 0
USGOVT-AGENCY2:
US-AGENCY-AMT2: 0
INTL-ORG1:
INTL-ORG-AMOUNT1: 0
INTL-ORG2:
INTL-ORG-AMOUNT2: 0
VIS-GOVT-AMT: 0
COMMISSION: 0
OTHER-AMOUNT: 0
VIS-AMOUNT: 0
VIS-CAT:
END BIO:
END NOMINATION:
END FIXED-FORMAT TEXT:

WOLFF